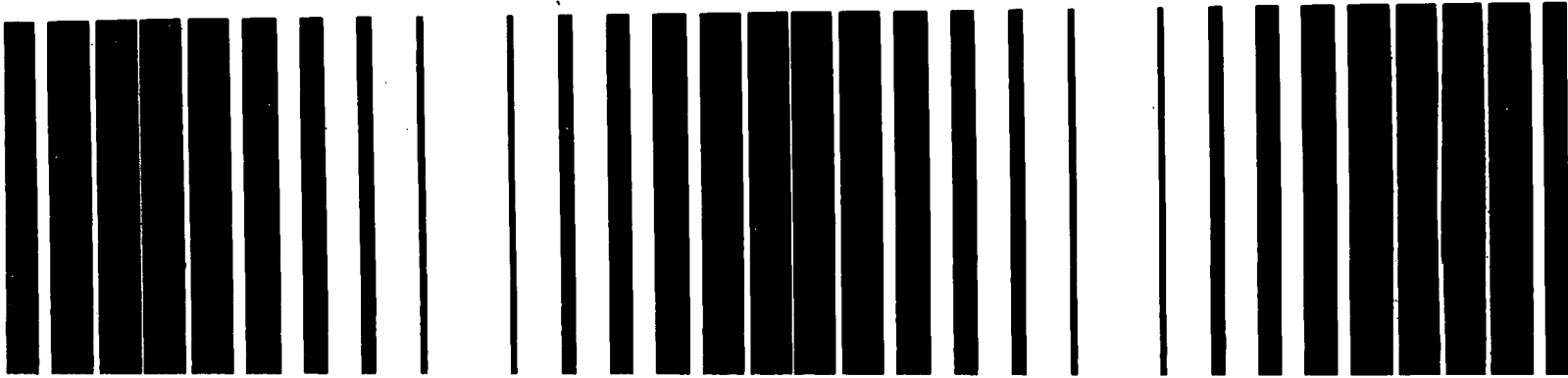




Guides to Pollution Prevention

The Automotive Repair Industry

For Display Only



Guides to Pollution Prevention

The Automotive Repair Industry

**Risk Reduction Engineering Laboratory
and
Center for Environmental Research Information
Office of Research and Development
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Cincinnati, OH 45268**



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Notice

This report has been subjected to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's peer and administrative review and approved for publication. Mention of trade names or commercial products does not constitute endorsement or recommendation for use.

This document is intended as advisory guidance only to automotive repair businesses in developing approaches for pollution prevention. Compliance with environmental and occupational safety and health laws is the responsibility of each individual business and is not the focus of this document.

Worksheets are provided for conducting waste minimization assessments of automotive repair shops. Users are encouraged to duplicate portions of this publication as needed to implement a waste minimization program.

Foreword

This report provides many waste minimization options for wastes generated by the automotive repair industry. Significant quantities of waste can be eliminated or avoided by establishing proper waste automotive fluid management practices, operating equipment properly (e.g., solvent sinks, hot tanks and jet spray washers), avoiding spills, and using detergents in place of solvents. Use of drip trays and collection of solid residues from cleaning further controls waste discharges.

In addition to waste minimization, segregation of solvent and aqueous waste by small to medium size repair shops must be promoted. Many of these small businesses generate less than 10 gallons of waste per month. These quantities can cost more for disposal than the original purchase price. Waste motor oils are often used as the vehicle for solvent waste disposal. Aqueous wastes often contain hazardous levels of grease, oil, and heavy metals. Many small shops dispose of this waste into the municipal sewer. Use of a service company to supply cleaning chemicals and remove waste materials is becoming an economical option.

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